

Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-335001/P9850X
Intel Corporation

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested. Claim amendments are presented herein to obviate the current rejection.

Specification

The specification has been amended to refer to the cross-related specification information. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

35 USC § 102(b)

Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Heitkamper. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite determining a total automatic volume control (AVC) gain from by combining an additional gain weighted by a level of ambient noise at the receiver with the AGC gain and the weighted DRC gain. Claims 12 and 19 were similarly amended.

Heitkamper relates to an arrangement in which a dynamic range of a transmitted signal is compressed (see, inter alia, Heitkamper page 5, FIG. 6). Heitkamper compresses the signal on

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two different time scales: long - AGC, and instantaneous - compander (see, inter alia, page 5, FIG. 6). The purpose of the AGC in Heitkamper is to equalize the long-term average speech level so that it will have the same average level irrespective of, for example, the distance between mouth to microphone. The compander amplifies low voltage more than it amplifies high voltage, resulting in instantaneous dynamic range compression. The dynamic range compression amplifies low-level sounds such as unvoiced consonants (as compared to high energy voice vowels).

When the transmitted signal processed by Heitkamper is composed of noise only, this noise (which is typically at the same level as low level speech segments) is not emphasized. Thus, Heitkamper's dynamic-range compressor of the transmitted signal depends on the transmitting-end ambient noise level as opposed to receiving-end ambient noise.

As stated above, Heitkamper performs compression at the transmitting side. This arrangement adjusts the compression to the presence of the speaking-side noise to prevent its enhancement by the compressor, in such a way that when the speaking-side noise is higher, the compression is weaker. However, the compressor of Heitkamper is not affected by the receiving-end ambient noise. Therefore, Heitkamper fails to disclose computing an AGC gain and weighted DRC gain, and

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determining a total AVC gain from by combining an additional gain weighted by a level of ambient noise at the receiver with the AGC gain and the weighted DRC gain for a signal received by a receiver.

Accordingly, claims 1-23 should be allowable.

Concluding Comments

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.


Additionally, the attached copy of initialed Form PTO 1449 shows the Examiner's initials on all references EXCEPT WO 00/60830. We respectfully request this reference also be initialed.

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Please apply \$120 for the Petition for Extension of time fee
along with any other charges or credits to Deposit Account
No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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 42,773

Scott C. Harris
Reg. No. 32,030
Attorney for Intel Corporation

Fish & Richardson P.C.
PTO Customer No. 20985
12390 El Camino Real
San Diego, California 92130
(858) 678-5070 telephone
(858) 678-5099 facsimile

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